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Letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1760 (2007) concerning Liberia, adopted on 20 June 2007, by which the Council requested me to establish, for a period of six months, a Panel of Experts consisting of up to three members with the range of expertise necessary to fulfil the mandate described in that resolution.

Accordingly, I wish to inform you that, after consulting with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia, I have appointed the following persons to serve on the Panel of Experts for a period ending on 20 December 2007:

Mr. Dimieari Von Kemedi (Nigeria, expert on arms)
Mr. Rajiva Bhushan Sinha (India, expert on finance)
Ms. Wynet V. Smith (Canada, expert on natural resources).

I have also selected Mr. Rajiva Bhushan Sinha to chair the Panel of Experts.

I should be grateful if you would bring this information to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 17 and 27

Security Council
Sixty-second year

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In addition to the previous letters of 28 June, 5 July (A/61/991-S/2007/410), 9 July 2007 (A/61/1000-S/2007/422) and 20 July 2007 (A/61/1006-S/2007/452), I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the so-called "presidential elections" held in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan on 19 July 2007 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be urgently distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 and 27, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ilham **Aghayev**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

The Republic of Azerbaijan welcomes the principled and unequivocal position clearly expressed by the international community with regard to the so-called "presidential elections" held in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 19 July 2007. By reaffirming its unswerving respect for the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and rejecting these illegal "elections", the international community has given a clear message to those who try to capitalize on the suffering of the displaced Azerbaijani population. Azerbaijan shares the concerns of its international partners about the negative effect of the illegal "elections" on the ongoing peace process.

Another attempt by the Republic of Armenia to camouflage its annexation policy and occupation of the territories of Azerbaijan ended in a complete and unavoidable failure. By its deeds, the Armenian side misleads no one but its own society. The international community is well aware of the situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

The Republic of Azerbaijan shall never accept a solution based on a fait accompli, which the Armenian side is trying to impose. The conflict in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan can be solved only on the basis of respect for the territorial integrity and inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of Azerbaijan and the peaceful coexistence of the Armenian and Azerbaijani communities in the Nagorno-Karabakh region within Azerbaijan, enjoying the benefits of democracy and prosperity fully and equally.

Azerbaijan expects that after Saint Petersburg's failure to accept the relevant proposals of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group Co-Chairmen, the Armenian side will reconsider its approach and take a constructive course.

Azerbaijan once again calls on the Armenian side to cease its destructive policies and, instead of wasting precious time, to negotiate in good faith with a view to finding a durable solution to the conflict as soon as possible.

Baky, 20 July 2007

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda item 19
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 23 July 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the instructions of my Government, I am writing the present letter to bring to your kind attention the provocative course of action pursued by the Greek Cypriot administration in the Eastern Mediterranean.

The Greek Cypriot side's attempts to delimit maritime jurisdiction areas as well as to explore oil and natural gas deposits in the Eastern Mediterranean continue unabated. In contradiction to the established principles of international law, the Greek Cypriot side has adopted a law identifying 13 oil exploration fields around the island of Cyprus and called for an international tender. Despite our objections, the tender process continues and is expected to be finalized as of 16 August 2007. All these acts, aiming at creating de facto situations in the region, are totally unacceptable.

It is an established rule that maritime delimitation in a semi-enclosed sea like the Eastern Mediterranean can be effected only by agreement, with the consent of all parties concerned and by respecting their mutual rights. Since there is no such agreement over the exclusive economic zone in the said region, the Greek Cypriot administration has no right whatsoever to initiate any activity there, including oil exploration.

The Greek Cypriot attempts violate Turkey's legitimate rights and interests in the Eastern Mediterranean. In this context, I would like to recall the information note annexed to the letter from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations, dated 2 March 2004, also issued in the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*, No. 54, concerning its objection to the agreement between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Greek Cypriot side on the "delimitation of the exclusive economic zone". Therein Turkey registered its existing ipso facto and ab initio legal and legitimate rights, especially in the western part of the longitude 32°16′18″, in accordance with the established principles of international law.

In fact, the Turkish Cypriots also have rights and authority over the maritime areas around the island of Cyprus, and the Greek Cypriots do not represent the

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island as a whole. As we have already stated, Turkey does not recognize the agreements signed by the Greek Cypriot authority in this direction and will not accept unilateral Greek Cypriot acts in these maritime areas. President Talat, in his letter addressed to you on 2 February 2007, has also underlined that the attitude of the Greek Cypriot side, which has long delayed a settlement in Cyprus, prejudges the fundamental rights of the Turkish Cypriot people and asserts the urgency of a final and comprehensive solution to the Cyprus issue that will also enable Turkish and Greek Cypriots to benefit jointly from the island's resources.

On this occasion, Turkey reaffirms its determination to contribute to the efforts to find a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus problem under your mission of good offices as well as under the long-established United Nations framework and parameters, namely political equality, bizonality, equal status and a new partnership State.

Turkey has expressed time and again that it is determined to protect its rights and interests in the Eastern Mediterranean. The Greek Cypriot side continues to pursue a policy that generates tension in the region.

Turkey continues to act responsibly on the basis of international law and legitimacy. We also expect from all parties concerned that they act in the same manner.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Baki **İlkin**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative